

Consideration of the dedication of the Trevlac Bluffs Nature Preserve in Brown County

The proposed Nature Preserve is a 212.22 acre property that is in the northwestern portion of Brown County, approximately 6.0 miles northwest of the town of Nashville. This nature preserve protects an example of mesic/dry mesic upland forest within the Brown County Hills Section of the Highland Rim Natural Region.

This Nature Preserve consists of topography containing a long ridge with a steep, north-facing 200 ft. bluff overlooking the forested floodplain of Beanblossom Creek, with rugged, heavily-drained ravines and uplands that slope south away from the bluff. Approximately 60% of the property is lowland floodplain that straddles Beanblossom Creek for over 1 mile while the forested uplands dominate the rest.

Natural communities this nature preserves protects, include: one of only two stands of Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) found in the Brown County Hills project area. In the forested uplands, white, black and red oak, shagbark hickory, and sugar maple are common canopy trees, while American beech and greenbrier are common in the understory. The dominant trees are uncommonly large, with diameters generally exceeding two feet at breast height, several measured close to three feet in diameter. As part of one of the most important forest systems remaining in the lower Midwest, the nature preserve supports a wide diversity of species. National research has identified this region as one of three critical forest blocks within the Midwest for breeding migratory songbirds.

This nature preserves adjoins the Yellowwood State Forest along its eastern border. Protection of this nature preserve was through the cooperative effort of the Indiana Heritage Trust, Bicentennial Nature Trust, DNR Division of Nature Preserves, The Nature Conservancy, and Sycamore Land Trust.

This tract is owned and managed by the Sycamore Land Trust.

The Division of Nature Preserves recommends dedication of this site as a State Nature Preserve.

Attached is Nature Preserves exhibit A.

Trevlac Bluffs Nature Preserve

County: Brown
Size: 212.22 acres

Exhibit A

USGS Quad Map: Morgantown
Ownership: Sycamore Land Trust



map created by R. Wilson IDNR Nature Preserves 11.22.2013